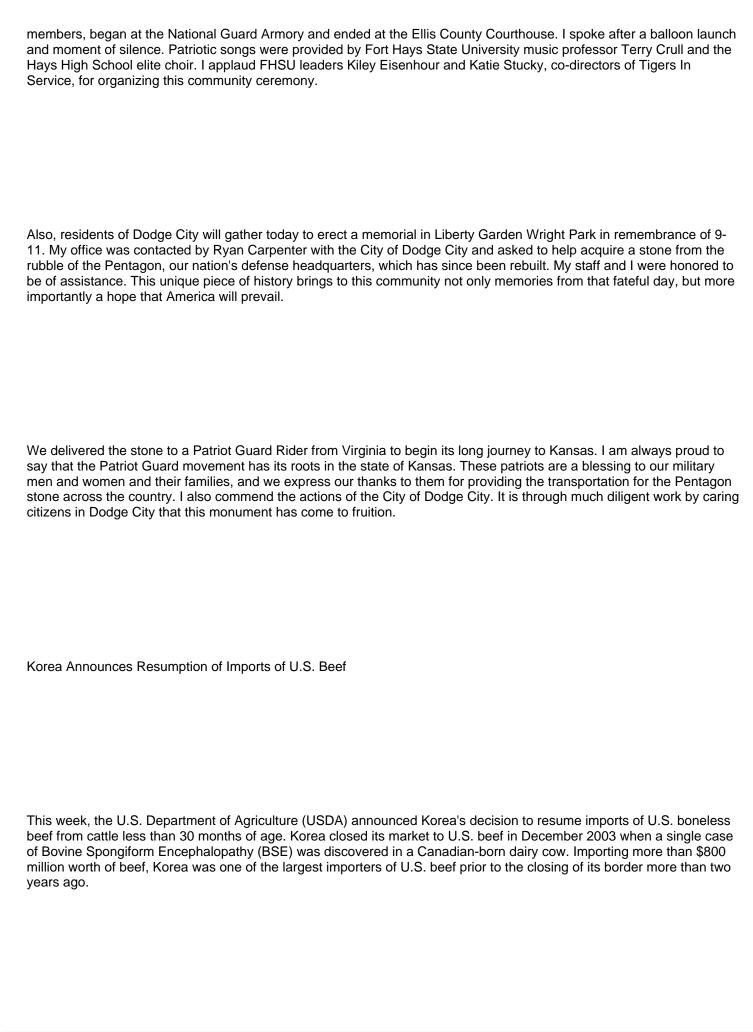
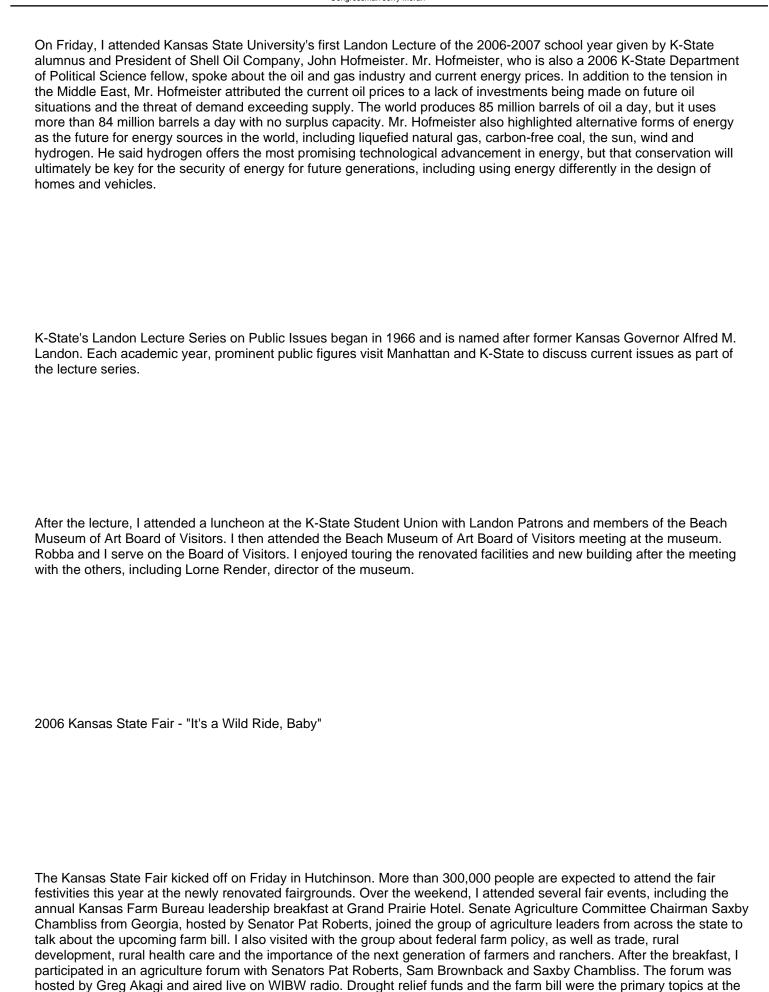
## 9/11/2006 This Week in Congress This Week in Congress September 11, 2006 Dear Friend, Welcome to "This Week in Congress." If you enjoy receiving this weekly email newsletter, please feel free to forward it on to others who may find it useful. Five Years Later - Remembering September 11 On Tuesday September 11, 2001, the world as we knew it was changed forever. We watched as planes, hijacked by terrorists, crashed into the Pentagon, the World Trade Center towers and a Pennsylvania field, killing thousands. In one way or another, this terrorist attack affected everyone, and Kansans are no exception. It is important for us to remember the events of that day, to recall how Americans of all backgrounds united in strength and to demonstrate to our enemies that the United States will not be broken.

The first Freedom Walk was held last year in Washington, D.C., to remember those who died on 9-11 and honor past and present veterans that continue to fight for our freedom. With its success, Freedom Walk became a national event and took place this year in 117 cities across the country, including Hays on Sunday. The walk, led by color guard



Congressional persistence and the efforts of USDA officials have paid off and the reopening of Korea's market to U.S. boneless beef means more good news for American producers. We are still in the beginning stages of regaining full access to important markets like Japan and Korea, but each step is key to the economic survival of Kansas ranchers. We will continue working to be the number one provider of beef products in homes around the world.
For the full text of my press release, click here.
Introducing Legislation to Help Rural Health Care Providers
I joined fellow members of the Rural Health Care Coalition in a press conference this week in Washington, D.C., to discuss the introduction of the Health Care Access and Rural Equity Act (H-CARE). This legislation helps rural health care providers address the challenges associated with delivering quality healthcare close to home.
Quality healthcare is not a luxury people in rural areas can do without - it is a necessity. Unfortunately, rural Americans face a unique combination of factors that create disparities in the health care system. From traveling hours to the nearest health care clinic to significant shortages of practitioners to inadequate reimbursement rates, access to care continues to be a challenge for those living in rural communities. The H-CARE Act addresses these and other challenges by recognizing the unique characteristics of health care delivery in rural areas and by assisting rural health care providers in their efforts to provide quality care to rural Americans.
This legislation will help Kansans and other rural residents have access to health care services by providing rural hospitals with the funding needed to keep their doors open.



forum. Kansans used the opportunity to ask Senator Chambliss about specialty crop interests and how it will factor into

the next farm bill.

I also stopped by a Kansas 25x'25 event where Kansas Secretary of Agriculture Adrian Polanksy and Kansas State University professor Dr. Barry Flinchbaugh discussed the 25x'25 initiative. I am a sponsor of a Congressional resolution to derive 25 percent of the nation's total energy from renewable sources such as wind, solar, biomass and biogas by 2025.
On Saturday evening, Robba and I attended the Grand Drive and Gala to hand out awards to 4-H and FFA livestock winners. I always enjoy the chance to see our Kansas youth in action through programs like 4-H and FFA. These programs play an important role in the development of our young Kansans, as well as in our community and state.
I enjoyed visiting with Kansans throughout the weekend. The main topic people visited with me about was immigration and border security. I would also like to commend the Fair Board for their efforts in organizing another great year at the fair. Robba is a member of the board.
Members of my staff will continue to be on hand this week at my information booth in the Pride of Kansas Building. I loc forward to returning to the fairgrounds next weekend.
Discussing the Fort Larned Historical Site at Hays Lions Club Meeting

I joined the Hays Lions Club for its weekly meeting at the Golden Ox Pavillion this week. I became a member of the Lions Club 30 years ago and have served as President of the club. I always enjoy spending time with the group. The program on Tuesday highlighted the restoration of the Old Commissary at Fort Larned National Historic Site. In 2004, I was able to secure federal funding to help complete the preservation of this 140-year-old building. The commissary was a storehouse used for perishable food items at Fort Larned in the 1800s. This post was instrumental in keeping the Santa Fe Trail open and in maintaining friendly relations with Plains Indians.
Visiting First State Bank in Junction City
This week, I visited First State Bank in Junction City to meet with the president of the bank, Steve Locke. Steve is the new Chairman of the Kansas Bankers Association. I enjoyed visiting with Steve about the many new developments going on in Junction City and Fort Riley with the return of the Big Red One.
In the Office
Britt Gates of Anthony was in the office this week representing the Zoie Foundation to discuss child safety concerns with power windows in vehicles. Dan Senestraro of Johnson, David Meyer of Olathe and Alex Bachelor of Basehor were in with Kansas Dairy Farmers to talk about current issues in the dairy industry.
Kansans in my office this week for a tour of the U.S. Capitol included Dr. Robert Bassett of Hays and Lisa Hagans of Wichita with her mother, Dorothy Hagans, of Utica.



Very truly yours,

Jerry